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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:

Bergemann, *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/809,028

Filed: March 16, 2001

For: **Carbon Black**

Art Unit: to be assigned

Examiner: to be assigned

Atty. Dkt. 21123/277112

**Preliminary Amendment**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

On page 5 of the specification, please delete the paragraph that starts on line 2, and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Carbon blacks modified in a polar manner (e.g., with  $-\text{SO}_3^-$  groups)  
can be better dispersed in non-polar systems, with precedence water.

See the attached Appendix for the changes made.

44-38860-2000

### Remarks

The amendments above were made to correct a typographical error in which a minus sign that should have been entered as a superscript was, instead, erroneously entered as a dash. This amendment clearly does not add new matter to the application, and its entry is therefore respectfully requested.

It is believed that the present application is now in condition for immediate allowance and early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a phone call may help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney at (202) 861-3020.

Respectfully submitted,

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## Appendix

### Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Page 5 of the specification has been amended herein. The changes that were made are shown below with the underlined words indicating text that was added and bracketed words indicating text that was removed.

The first full paragraph on page 5 was amended as follows:

Carbon blacks modified in a polar manner (e.g., with -SO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> groups [-SO<sub>3</sub>- groups]) can be better dispersed in non-polar systems, with precedence water.